

SD State Veterans Home 2500 Minnekahta Ave 605/745/5127 ext 1500339 Rachelle.Butler@state.sd.us

3/9/20

Dear Resident of SD State Veterans Home,

You may have been hearing a lot about the COVID-19 or Novel Coronavirus in the news. We wanted to write you, with some facts about COVID-19 and assure you that SD State Veterans Home has proactive plans in place.

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness originating from an outbreak in Wuhan, China. Symptoms are fever, cough, shortness of breath. COVID-19 can spread from person to person most likely when there is close contact.

You can protect yourself by avoiding people who are sick, washing your hands, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

You can protect others, by staying away others when you are sick and alert your nurse/provider right away if you feel sick. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects/surfaces.

Prevention practices for respiratory viruses are already in place at SD State Veterans Home. These include keeping high touch surfaces disinfected. Nurses are trained to watch for signs and symptoms of infections and communicate with providers right away. We have policies in place and supplies available if there were to be a respiratory virus here at SD State Veterans Home. We are asking community to limit visits to facility and limiting community activities at facility throughout respiratory flu season. We have policy and plan in place for COVID19 should it be needed. Your safety is our priority at SD State Veterans Home. If you or your family have any questions or concerns, please just let your nurse know or give me a call 605-745-5127 ext. 1500339.

Warm regards,